

# I'HH' (+AI'H:WA'



volume CI number 39 \* the official student newspaper at the university of alberta \* www.thegatewayonline.ca \* tuesday, march 15, 2011



### Don't hate on the players

The Gateway's Darcy Ropchan explores the art of being a ladies' man discovering it's harder than the how-to manuals let on.

**FEATURE, PAGE 8** 



### Let's boycott cell carriers

The stupid ploys by Fido and Telus involving contracts and tabs for our cell bills are nothing short of outrageous.

**OPINION, PAGE 6** 

### **Explosions and** aliens just aren't cool enough

Battle: Los Angeles may have an almost unlimited budget for special effects and a plot involving extraterrestrials, but it leaves viewers wanting some real characters.

A&E, PAGE 10



FIRE ON ICE The Golden Bears hockey team won the Canada West championship and will be heading to Fredericton for CIS nationals. See story, page 12.

### Tighe talks changes at Dewey's

Converting the Powerplant, digital InfoLink booths on the president-elect's agenda

JUSTIN BELL **Managing Editor** 

Ensuring the Students' Union is relevant to undergraduate students — it's a big goal, but incoming SU President Rory Tighe has his sights set high.

"I really want more people to be interested in the Students' Union next year. I really want students to feel more connected to the SU and the university," Tighe said.

In the short term, that's going to mean trying to get as many students as possible interested in the Students' Council election on March 24 and 25. He wants to see many seats contested for the 31-seat council.

Expanding the role of InfoLink will be another way to get students interested. Tighe said he wants to put together a proposal to expand the number of InfoLink booths, as well as adding digital terminals, what he described as "similar to digital maps you would find in malls."

He also wants to start negotiating with the university and the Graduate Students' Association about the future of the Powerplant space. The lease on Dewey's will be up in August 2012, and Tighe would like to see the building converted to a central



GO BIG OR GO HOME Incoming SU President Rory Tighe outlines his goals.

meeting space on campus for undergrads, grad students, and alumni.

"I would really like to see the space expand a little bit. I think there's a real need for a mid-size venue on campus," he said.

Tighe said grad students and undergrads need space on campus to meet, and he sees no reason the two couldn't come together in an updated Powerplant.

But the space comes with its own pitfalls. The SU ran the Powerplant in the past, and had to shutter the popular bar over mounting debts, which had reached \$210,000 by one point.

Tighe recognized the problems the space caused for the SU in the past and said he will try to learn from them.

PLEASE SEE **TIGHE •** PAGE3

### Second term for GSA president

**JUSTIN BELL Managing Editor** 

Coming into his second term as president of the Graduate Students' Association, Roy Coulthard doesn't have big exciting plans.

Instead, he wants proper governance and good administration at the association to be his top priority for next year.

"I think a lot of my focus is really going to be internal. It's going to be making sure we have all the internal supports we need as elected officials to go out and do our jobs properly," Coulthard said.

Coulthard said he wants to grow the association from "a large student club" into a more professional organization better able to respond to the needs of grad students. He also wants to focus on advocacy, expanding the number of university committees the GSA has representation on.

That kind of work will only come about when the organization is able to run on its own, according to Coulthard.

PLEASE SEE COULTHARD • PAGE 2

www.thegatewayonline.ca

tuesday, march 15, 2011 volume CI number 39

Published since november 21, 1910 Circulation 7,000 ISSN 0845-356X

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THE GATEWAY is published by the Gateway Student Journalism Society (GSJS), a student-run, autonomous, apolitical not-for-profit organization operated in accordance with the Societies Act of Alberta.

THE GATEWAY is proud to be a founding member of the Canadian University Press.



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The Gateway periodically adjusts its circulation between 8,000 to 10,000 printed copies based on market fluctuations and other determining factors.

### colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, HP Scaniet flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of FENICE, Joanna, Kepler and Whitney. The Manitoban is the Gateway's sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." The Gateway's games of choice are The Lost Vikings and Sounds Like Wilco.

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Alex Migdal, Aaron Yeo, Scott Fenwick, Evan Daum, Dulgunn Bayasgalan, Alana Willerton, Kory Orban, Natalia Knowlton, Darcy Ropchan, Adrian Lahola-Chomiak, Kenan Kigunda, Faye Campbell, Paul Cresey, Bobby Williamson, Ross Vincent Skybox by Dan McKechnie

### THE GATEWAY Growth for the GSA in Coulthard's plans

### Returning president hopes to increase internal strength, adminstration capacity of association

**COULTHARD • CONTINUED FROM PAGE1** 

They have expanded the number of full-time staff and their roles within the GSA, and he wants to continue to work on this as his number one priority.

With the internal structure taken care of, it gives Coulthard and his Vice Presidents a chance to focus on the bigger issues on campus. Part of that will be working with grad student departmental associations, one of Coulthard's campaign platform points.

"Call it a goal for next year — I will not be running for a third term — but I hope to see that voter turnout is increased next year."

> ROY COULTHARD **GSA PRESIDENT**

"Our departmental associations, which are the closest thing we have to faculty associations, are almost autonomous. We haven't been able to bring some value-added benefit to them. At the same time, our department student groups are our representation at the department level," he said.

By making contacts at the department level, Coulthard hopes the GSA can help with negotiations on everything from office space to teaching assistant assignments.

"When big problems arise, which they now and again do, [I hope] that we can step in to provide assistance and big guns if that's ever needed."

But there are other issues facing the GSA in the year to come. This year's election saw a mere five per cent voter turnout.

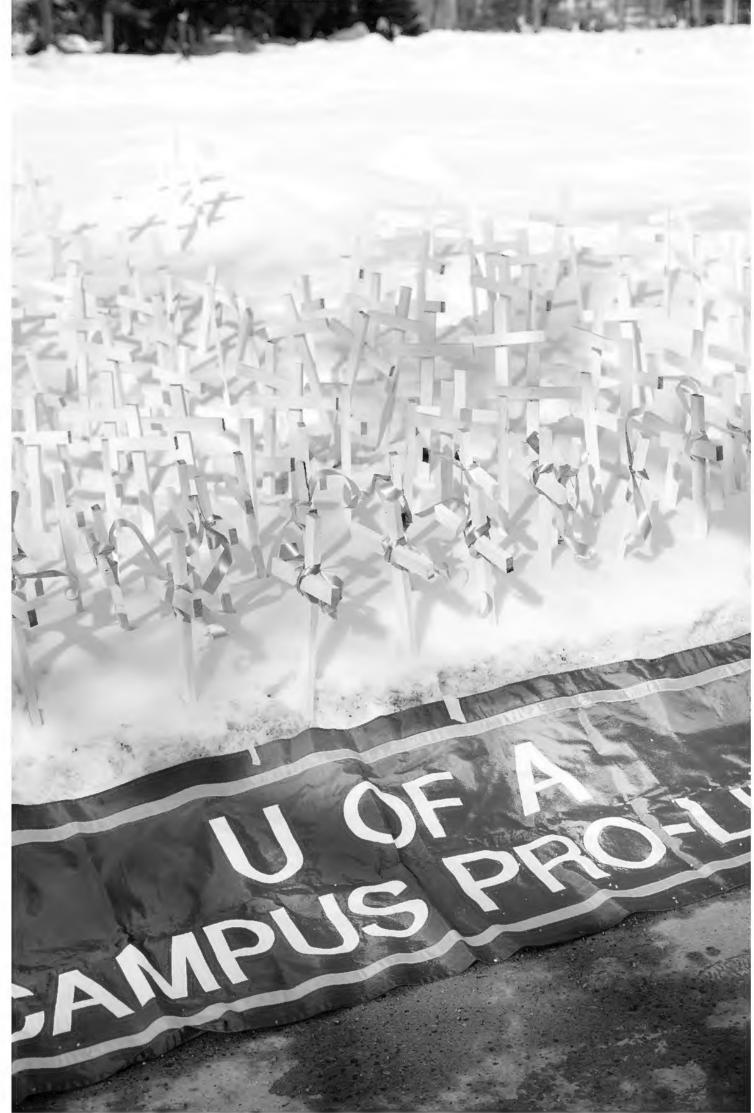
"Call it a goal for next year — I will not be running for a third term but I hope to see that voter turnout is increased next year," he said.

The Powerplant will be another issue for the GSA to tackle. With the lease agreement on Dewey's expiring in August 2012, Coulthard wants to start discussions now with the university over what to do with the space.

The GSA owns office space in the building, which currently plays host to university staff put out by renovations going on in Tory. Coulthard wants to leverage their space for a better deal on rent at Dewey's, a joint venture between the Students' Union and the GSA.

That could take the form of lower rent or longer hours at the coffee shop and bar. Either way, Coulthard sees it as a way to increase profitability.

But there's still work to be done in the short term before larger projects can be tackled. The transitioning of the four vice presidents will be his current goal, making sure they can take over when their terms start in May.



**QUAD DISPLAY** University of Alberta Campus Pro-Life raises awareness.

### CORRECTION

In The Gateway's election special printed March 11, there was a photo labelled as Sagar Lunawat, the Graduate Students' Association Vice President (Student Services) elect. However, the photo is in fact of Azizul Hoque, a candidate for the Vice President (Student Life) race. The Gateway regrets the error.

Compiled and photographed by Scott Fenwick and Dan McKechnie



and I was already studying.

**Brian Chan** Business III

Around two in the morning, because I had to drive home far away from here, As you may be aware, many students are sleep deprived.

**Brittany Barton** 

Science I

### What's the latest time you've ever gone to bed, and why?



The latest I've went to bed is usually at about 2 a.m., just because I can't turn off my brain any earlier than that. So I need to lay in bed, watch TV, and try to unwind before I can fall asleep.



Sahil Bangar Engineering II



Raphaelle Masquillier Arts II

It was at 4 a.m. It was because I had assignments due and a midterm on the same day. And I had a lab the next day. Can't help it.

Six a.m. last night. Too much coffee.

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NEWS THE GATEWAY • volume CI number 39

### Sleep deprivation leads to lower TEACH ENGLISH OVERSEAS grades, depression: researcher

**ALEX MIGDAL News Staff** 

While most students denounce sleep as the least important of their priorities, a University of Alberta professor thinks that widespread attitude should be put to rest.

Cary Brown, an associate professor in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, recently held a seminar on sleep hygiene at the U of A, where she said small changes can be taken to improve sleep for postsecondary students.

Brown defined sleep hygiene as "knowing what things contribute to bad sleep, and figuring out 'How can I adjust my lifestyle and my schedule so that I can still do what I want to do, but without [those] negative consequences?""

She listed busy schedules and technology use as key reasons for sleep deprivation in many postsecondary students. Backlit screens used before bed activate adenosine, a neurotransmitter that signals the body to stay awake. This effect, in combination with a lack of sun and dim lighting in campus buildings, confuses the body's circadian rhythms.

Brown believes that a distorted societal perception of sleep, highlighted by the rampant advertisement of energy drinks in the media, also contributes to increased sleep deprivation rates.

"We have developed this badge of honour where, if you don't need any sleep, people think, 'Wow, that's really cool, and that's great, and they're really tough because they don't need sleep,' she said. "But what happens is you start to lack insight after you're sleep deprived for a while. You don't actually realize how poor you are managing."

Sleep deprivation correlates directly to lower grades, weight gain, decreased libido, and a higher risk of depression — consequences that Brown emphasized when warning students about not getting enough sleep.

Still, students shouldn't be expected to sleep nine hours every night, according to Brown. Rather, it's the smaller, incremental changes that can



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: AARON YEO **LESS THAN 40 WINKS** Irregular sleep patterns pose a threat to students.

have the biggest effects.

"I look at sleep like a system, so there's a whole bunch of things going on, and you can't fix everything, but maybe there's one thing," she said.

These changes include wearing earplugs, running a fan in the background, and wearing a sleep mask. Longer-term changes include establishing a regular sleep schedule and finding the right amount of sleep that makes you feel restored in the morning.

Despite campaigns like National Sleep Awareness Week which ran from March 7 to 13, Brown said she felt that a local sleep awareness campaign would be more beneficial for U of A students.

"If you don't have any sleep, how can you learn, how can you make the best of your time here?" she said. "[In the residences,] people aren't just being jerks when they ask you to be quiet; there's really a need for it. I know they're starting to look more at quiet floors [in Lister] and I think that'll help."

And although most people would expect that an expert in sleep would have more than enough restful nights of their own, Brown's reasoning for her sleep research boils down to one thing.

"I guess it's because I'm sleep deprived too."

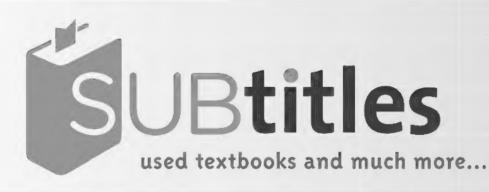
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#### **BUDGETARY** straints are that you have a narrower **BUDDIES** revenue stream to support these pro-

The University of Alberta School of Business held their annual Alberta Budget Post-Mortem Panel last Thursday to discuss the impacts of Premier Ed Stelmach's exit budget.

The discussion included Bob Ascah. Director of the Institute for Public Economics and Scott Henning, Director of the Canadian Taxpayers Association, and two other experts. The discussion focused on how the current Alberta government is reconciling its revenue shortfalls with its need to retain strong popular opinion.

"What we saw was a relatively middle-of-the-road, relatively large spending budget compared to what some members of the caucus wanted. But because Stelmach was stepping down, the conservatives thought they could sell it," Ascah said.

Advanced education was not talked about in the panel discussion, but the zero percent increase to operating grants continues to be an issue for the university.

"It's not a very positive budget for

advanced education. I think the congrams," Ascah said after the conclusion of the panel discussion. "When the natural gas prices fall, it puts a constraint on spending. And there is a significant amount of the population that wants to see taxes stay low and so it forces tradeoffs between cabinet ministers. Advanced education comes out on the short end."

However, one panelist, Scott Henning, felt the operating costs for advanced education should be further slashed by \$55 million dollars a year to help alleviate the budget deficit that the provincial government is currently facing.

"Students want lower tuition. Everybody else doesn't care," Henning said. "My suggestion would be to decrease staff wages. I don't think it would decrease the quality of education. If staff decided not to come here because of that, or leave and go elsewhere it might, but I don't think that would be the case. We tend to have the highest paid [public service employees] in the country. If you decrease it, where are they going to go? Somewhere else? Maybe, but probably not."

—Matt Hirji, Sports Editor

### Tighe to focus on transitions

**TIGHE • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1** 

"It would be really important to find out what the needs of the other groups on campus are. Having a programmable space would be great,' Tighe said.

Transitioning in the new vice presidents will now be one of the biggest issues for Tighe. None of the three incoming executives have experience on executive council, and will all have to work closely with their predecessors.

While he wants to continue much of the work the executives have worked on this year, Tighe felt there might have been too much of a focus on internal initiatives and not enough effort on communicating with the general student population.

In order to address this, pushing communications "outside of SUB" will be a priority for the entirety of the executive team this coming year.

But in the meantime, it's a matter of waiting for the new Vice President (Student Life) to be elected and move on with business as usual.





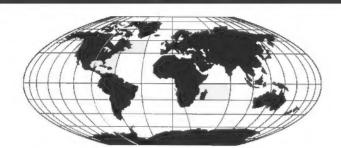
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We can offer anonymity if desired.

### THE GATEWAY

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The Gateway is accepting applications for the Staff Reporter position for the 2011/2012 publishing year.

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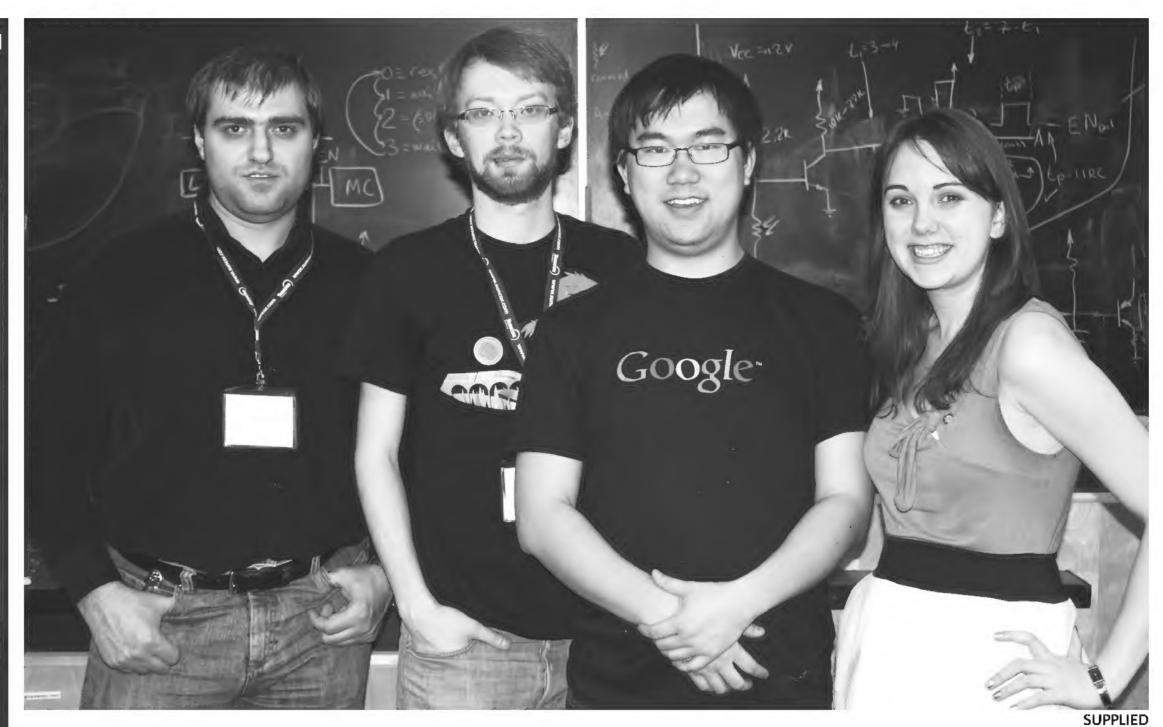
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### Engineering team's drawbridge design falters on national stage

MATT HIRJI Sports Editor

Building the perfect drawbridge is a difficult task for even the most experienced engineers — but for a group of U of A students, completing the assignment in an afternoon added to their challenge as they competed in the Canadian Engineering Competition last weekend.

After claiming top prize in the Western Engineering Competition earlier this month, a team of four engineering students travelled to Montreal to face off against the brightest, most innovative teams from across the country. Competing in the senior design category, the team had to design, build, and present a prototype for an automated drawbridge in less than 10 hours.

"We have a good mix of disciplines and backgrounds and we also have, between all of us on the team, a tremendous amount of knowledge in a wide variety of engineering applications," fifth-year engineering student Edmond Chen explained. "Another thing is that we all have confident presentation skills, which will really come in handy because a large part of the competition is about how well

you can communicate the intentions behind your design."

But winning the competition wasn't in the cards for the group of Edmonton engineering students. After having difficulties establishing the proper electrical wiring for their prototype bridge to lift before the boat crashed into it, the team couldn't find the time to finish the construction of their drawbridge.

"Trying to fit everything into the time span is always the biggest challenge. You definitely feel the pressure. Towards the end we were scrambling [...] to put the finishing touches on the prototype," Chen said. "I think we did a really good job designing it on paper, but the implementation was a bit tricky and we ran out of time in the end. We never got the chance to fully implement it."

Despite their frustrations, the squad still feels like the competition was a worthwhile learning experience. As Chen explained, the event provided the opportunity to gain real world experiences while establishing dialogue between supervisors and students with different academic backgrounds.

"Because at school we usually only work with people within your own discipline, it's nice to go outside and see what other types of engineers are doing, and then figure out how to work as an efficient team and put your knowledge together," Chen said. "The university doesn't really stress the communication aspect of engineering. I think this is a great opportunity to see what we should be doing in the real world — it's just as important to build something as it is to explain why you built it this way."

Mirroring the sentiments of his teammate, fourth-year U of A electrical engineer Peter Roland is extremely grateful for the opportunity to take part in the prestigious competition. While he experienced plenty of frustrations on the day of the competition, Roland said learning from other engineering students is far more fulfilling than emerging triumphant in the competition.

"I've really enjoyed the experience of coming out here, getting the opportunity to compete and be a part of the engineering community," Roland said.

"The greatest part of the experience was just getting to meet students from other schools, seeing how they approach problems, and gaining an understanding about how problems are solved at other schools."

### CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Aaron Yeo

### YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO HOME

At 11:30 p.m. on March 7, a staff member at International House reported to UAPS that she had observed a suspicious male loitering near the main entrance as if he was looking for a warm place to spend the night. She told the male to move on and last saw him heading north on 111th Street. UAPS attended the area and were not able to locate the male, who was described as quite well dressed and wearing a suit and toque.

### DISTURBING DOCUMENTS

UAPS officers responded to a disturbance call on the main floor of the Administration building at 10 a.m. on March 8. Staff reported that a female became upset when she was not given back her original documents after submitting them. She was apparently unaware of the Registrar's policy that original documents become the prop-

erty of the university once submitted. Despite being told this, she remained angry and unco-operative. Staff at the registrar's office were not willing to help her until she calmed down. UAPS told her to make an appointment with staff to get copies of documents and had her leave the area.

### A HANKERING FOR ALCOHOL

At 1:40 p.m. on March 8, UAPS received a report from staff of a break and enter into the bar area of the Timms Centre. The perpetrators cut the locks on the coolers and helped themselves to wine, beer, cider, and champagne. EPS were contacted and arrived to continue the investigation.

### SHORT A 20

Staffat the Augustana campus reported that a male had his jacket stolen while working out at the fitness centre at 9 a.m. on March 9. He had secured his belongings in his locker and, upon returning to the area, discovered it had been accessed and his jacket taken. The victim did recover his jacket, minus \$20 cash. The Camrose Police Service was contacted and investigated the incident.

### BELLIGERENT BEHAVIOUR

At 12:30 p.m. on March 11, an instructor contacted UAPS to report two belligerent students in her lecture in the Humanities building. The two were asked to leave and refused. Officers attended the area and caught up with a male on the third floor of the building. The male was told he could be charged under the Code of Student Behaviour if he were to repeat his actions. After being spoken to, he was allowed to leave the area and instructed to tell his friend that they could face the same consequences for any more unruly behaviour.

### RIVALRY BOILS OVER

Event staff at Clare Drake Arena contacted UAPS on March 11 at 8 p.m. to report an assault. When UAPS officers arrived, they were told that a male had approached them to report being punched in the face by a female. Further investigation showed that the male was yelling "Calgary sucks." A female from Calgary took exception to the remarks and proceeded to punch the male. The victim told UAPS officers he didn't want to report the incident to EPS, but did say his jaw hurt. The puncher's friend did apologize on her behalf.

# OPINION

# DIE Board messes with democracy

STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA HAVE been denied what little modicum of choice they were allowed in this year's Students' Union executive election. The Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement Board has hopelessly bungled the democratic process and effectively made a mockery of the SU elections.

The race for Vice President (Student Life), the lone contested position, was cancelled after Jaskaran Singh, the Chief Returning Officer, mistakenly gave one of the candidates, David McBean, permission to send out a mass e-mail to members of an Orientation volunteer email list. Unsurprisingly, the other candidate, Colten Yamagishi, took issue with what seemed like an unfair advantage. What neither suspected, however, was the complaint would reach the DIE board, the judicial arm of the SU. The DIE Board ultimately cancelled the race half way through the voting period, to be rescheduled for an as-yet indeterminate date.

In their initial ruling, the DIE Board declared that the election for VP (Student Life) had been "irreparably tainted," much to the dismay of both candidates, neither of whom were eager to begin campaigning all over again. As frustrating as the new election is, what's even more ridiculous is the shocking ineptitude with which the DIE Board handled the situation. In the initial hearing, the tribunes had not even bothered to bring with them a copy of bylaw. Instead, they relied on the expertise of Councillor Natalie Cox. It's unforgiveable that the DIE Board tribunes are completely ignorant of the bylaws they're supposed to enforce. This, however, was only the first misstep in the DIE Board's comedy of errors.

The DIE Board ruled to cancel the election, despite the fact that both candidates were hoping for a compromise. Admittedly, Yamagishi and McBean weren't particularly helpful in this regard, only suggesting that they would be willing to settle for compromise of an e-mail to the Residence Services mailing list after the DIE Board had made its ruling. The fact remains, however, that the DIE Board's decision was not dependent on the candidates suggesting a compromise — they could easily have enforced one of their own choosing, had they wanted to.

Instead, they decided to hold a new election. The official ruling claims that this second election is necessary because "there is nothing more fundamental to student democracy than the fairness and transparency of our electoral processes." However, given the candidates' willingness to compromise, it seems as though the DIE Board thought that holding a new election would be the simplest solution to the knot caused by the CRO's oversight. Unfortunately for everyone, the re-election will be anything but simple.

The elections office subitted an appeal of the DIE Board's initial ruling because they hope to hold the VPSL elections concurrently with the general council elictions later this month. Although DIE Board suspended nominations for the new election so that the race will remain between Yamagishi and McBean, they neglected to suspend the portion of bylaw that requires 21 days of notice for SU elections. Should the appeal fail, however, the VPSL election would have to be delayed until April, when voter turnout would be so small as to be utterly insignificant. That can't possibly be considered fair.

It's unfortunate that the CRO made a mistake during the original VP (Student Life) race. But the DIE Board's handling of the situation has been atrocious. We cannot expect students to have faith in the Students' Union when the DIE Board is making poorly-informed rulings that cheapen the electoral processes of the institution. In the mess of confusing bylaws and the politicization of the electoral process, it's hardly surprising that students are disconnected from the SU. The only thing the DIE Board has accomplished by delaying the VP (Student Life) election is to even further compromise the legitimacy of the SU.

ALIX KEMP Opinion Editor



### letters TO THE eds

### Candidates demonstrate ineffectiveness of SU

Earlier this week, the first of the Students' Union election candidates (a term I use very loosely), began pitching their platforms in my classes. Now, drawing attention to yourself in Tory Lecture, where there are 400 students engaged in 100 separate conversations, would be daunting to most people. A few of them managed to pull it off, and normally I would commend that. Unfortunately, any indication of credibility or common sense got off the bus right there.

Here's one of the star candidates: David McBean, who is running for VP Student Life. Not only did he adapt his platform into the Pokémon theme song and forget to mention his own name, but he also managed to persuade me that he is no way serious about the position he apparently wants. One of his election promises is to increase collaboration between Students' Union and the faculties. The BSA already does an outstanding job with my faculty, but even if increased collaboration with the Students' Union was beneficial, I don't see it happening under him. David, I'm sure you're a great person, but if you "want to be the very best, the best there ever was," please stop embarrassing yourself.

Now, I have to admit, I'm not a litruly offensive experience with a

huge supporter of the Students' Union, but I still go out and vote. In any other year, I vote because it entitles me to complain when I don't think my fees are being used properly (I pick rocks out of county ditches all summer so that I can pay my tuition. The executives better be sweating just as hard as I am).

This year, I voted with damage control in mind. With candidates running around out there, trying to "catch em' all," I really hope other students utilized their votes in a similar fashion. Sadly, there were very few candidates that I could justify voting for over the "None of the Above" option. The Students' Union will have a very tough time legitimizing their role on campus if any of the star candidates that presented in my classes get voted into executive positions this year. If they do, I sure hope that Colten Yamagishi finds it within that giant sheep of his to give the gift of an opt-out option for my Students' Union membership.

> SHANE NEIGEL Business III

### Gateway discriminates against poor students

RE: ("Retrofuturism," March 10)

On the morning of Friday, March 11, I opened up the spring fashion pull-out entitled "retrofuturism" which I had been looking forward to for some time now, only to be faced with what I can honestly call my first truly offensive experience with a

University of Alberta student organization since I started here as a freshman in September. This article, in no way represented fashions which I, or most of my university friends, would be capable of purchasing.

The sole piece of clothing under \$100 in the article was a "steal-ofa-deal" \$99 belt. I'm not sure how much our Gateway editors make that they can afford a \$1,169 blazer, but if I had \$1,169 of disposable income I would put it towards a month's rent so I wouldn't have to commute a total of two hours daily to live at home to save on the costs of living independently. I am aware that the U of A student body represents a wide range of financial backgrounds, but the Gateway article "retrofuturism" in no way considers, or represents this diversity.

I am grateful every day that I have all my needs met and still have a little left over to go out occasionally and do some travelling because I know not all students are as fortunate, but every time I swipe my debit card I consider how many hours I worked for that purchase. It is the nonchalant way in which the Gateway depicts the spending of \$645 on a pair of shoes which most offends me. At a time when there are many suffering the devastation caused by the recent pacific tsunami, the Gateway is trying to encourage the student body to drop \$349 on a top just to be considered members of the "fashion elite."

If the *Gateway* justifies this outrageous inconsideration of the university's student body by claiming true

fashion can only be achieved with a limitless MasterCard, they could try visiting a local Value Village, or any of the local independent boutiques like Swish, or Vespucci (both of which carry "vintage"/second hand clothing). Low budget wardrobes are feasible. It just takes some looking. The most I have spent (and not without guilt) in the last year was \$100 on a pair of Good Society organic fairlytraded cotton, naturally dyed, jeans. I work one job on weekends, saving up for tuition, but I know many students who work several jobs fulltime to obtain an education and I would appreciate it if the Gateway would consider these students the next time they publish a "high fashion pull-out."

> BLUE-BELLE KNOX Arts I



### SU should investigate CRO's actions

RE: ("New election called for Students' Union Vice President (Student Life)," Alexandria Eldridge and Simon Yackulic, March 10)

This proves, among other faults of the SU, that this is a system being run on an empty tank. The only good about this situation is the fact it was noticed and reported. But what now? Are we as students supposed

Are we as students suppose PLEASE SEE **LETTERS -** PAGE 6 **OPINION** tuesday, march 15, 2011 • www.thegatewayonline.ca

### Public Hearing

Members of the University community are invited to offer comments about University of Alberta Protective Services as part of an accreditation process (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc)

### Monday, March 21, 2011 12 Noon

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87 Avenue and 116 Street Edmonton

Comments can also be submitted by phone by calling 780-492-1457 between 9:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. on March 21, 2011.



For further information, contact University of Alberta Protective Services:

Sgt. Jim Newman at 780-492-9254 or

Sgt. Grace Berry at 780-492-5957

## SU elections Federal politics Tim Hortons Online dating Justin Bieber U of A administration Christmas decorations None of the above

WHAT DO THESE TOPICS HAVE IN COMMON?

THEY'RE ALL PART OF THE GATEWAY'S **OPINION SECTION.** 

### GATEWAY OPINION

All of the above since 1910

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### A new face for the same old schemes



**KIGUNDA** 

e all love our phones. They're smart, they're sleek, and they do everything. However, our feelings towards our cell phone providers are considerably less warm and fuzzy. Whether it's Rogers, Telus, Bell, or any one of their subsidiaries, few customers are pleased, and the carriers know it. Thanks to an insistence on dead-end contracts and obscure fees, mobile providers face mounting competition to convince us to join them in risky relationships — and the schemes they use to snag consumers have been getting weirder.

Customers are understandably tired of getting trapped in painfully long contracts, and someone at Telus noticed. After looking at what they themselves were doing, they introduced Koodo, with the brilliant idea of fighting what they've dubbed "bigbillification." They claim it's a whole new way of doing things, emphasizing that they're on the customers' side. Rather than offer phones for less to trap people in contracts, they'll offer a phone for less and ignore the contract idea entirely.

The scheme is called "the tab," and it certainly sounds good — instead of a contract, you owe Koodo \$150, with 10 per cent of your bill each month going towards your debt until it's paid off. And it's prompted the zaniest ploy of all.

You may have seen the ads. Fido, tired of being one-upped by the nocontract companies like Koodo and Wind, has come up with an opposing plan, calling it the "no tab contract." Let's pause to consider this. There's no tab, so cross that out. Which brings us to the "contract" part of the deal, and ... oh. It's the exact same jail sentence we were running from in the first place.

At best, the Fido campaign pokes

logical holes in Koodo's claims. By actually doing the math, it's clear that customers with high-dollar-value tabs and low-dollar-value plans are likely to be left with outstanding balances years later. Fido, meanwhile, leaves us with the same horrible option we all love to hate, the lifeless two-year terms, and cancellation fees running up to \$300.

It's sad that some mobile giants are having so much difficulty with elementary math, and though one or two have finally figured it out, it took them long enough.

But this is nothing new — cell phone companies have long had had a magician's bag of shitty tricks to attract customers. Case in point: the free phone. In advertisements, a dollar sign lies humbly to the side while a bold zero dominates the sign, hiding a price that would usually be dismissed as gruesome. Even when the price isn't free, there's always an alluringly large discount. If you're not willing to shell out \$700 for Apple's latest device, Rogers will practically give it away for a mere \$200. You'll be locked in for three years, but since that's just in the small print, it's hardly important.

Then there's the per-second billing. Cell carriers charge customers for a full minute even if they've only been on the phone for a few seconds. Fido is one of a few that are proud of their ability to recognize the fact that 10 seconds is not, in fact, the same as a minute. It's sad that some mobile giants are having so much difficulty with elementary math, and though one or two have finally figured it out, it took them long enough.

Fido's problem is that rather than reinventing phones, it's merely reinventing phonies. Not surprisingly, this changes nothing. Again.

**LETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5** to accept this bandaid solution of the SU? Why should we? There should be an entire investigation and inquiry into all the decisions the former CRO has made. Transparency is key. Let's see if the SU can step up to the plate.

> "NOM DE PLUME" Via Internet

#### Retired hack approves of election dissection

RE: ("Election Dissection 2011," March 8)

This is definitely heads and shoulder above the coverage in previous years when these articles were more about anointing who The Gateway would like to see in office, rather than providing a critical eye to the feasibility of the platforms or the skill set required to hold the office.

As for the lackluster showing, I think it's a factor of two major problems. The first is that the SU does a relatively poor job of selling itself to the student population. It acts like it's a level of government (it's not) and as such, everyone should be eager to hold office. Furthermore, the only time you really see the execs directly speaking to the electorate is when they're running for office. The SU is a bit incestuous and somewhat hostile towards "outsiders".

The second problem is the elections themselves. They've morphed into an industry of their own, with candidates needing to have "ins" with people schooled in website and poster design. Right now, it's very much flash over substance. Unless you've run a campaign before, you have no idea what you're supposed to do or how to do it. While the elections office occasionally runs a "how to run a campaign" session, it's after the nomination deadline and too late to convince people that campaigning isn't as hard as it looks.

> "OLD SCHOOL SU HACK" Via Internet

#### Old school editor responds to old school hack

RE: ("Election Dissection 2011," March 8) I agree completely with your last two points, however the first point requires some clarity.

Election Dissection has never been about The Gateway's opinion. It is on average completely made up of former SU hacks like yourself. Occasionally there is a former Gatewayer on it, but it's generally completely removed from bias.

Editorials/opinion articles and the jabs from Poster Slam? Sure, you can deliver a harangue about those any day of the week and I won't disagree with you. But The Gateway is fundamentally allowed their opinions, and to get mad at them for "influencing" elections makes an individual look like an ass.

Full disclosure: I have both written an Election Dissection as an editor and participated on one as an alum.

Fuller disclosure: The SU in its current form is obsolete.

> "RH" Via Internet

Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca or delivered via paper airplane to SUB 3-04. Website comments may occasionally be printed.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous, or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 400 words, and should include the author's name, program, and year of study to be considered for publication.

THE GATEWAY • volume CI number 39

### A chance to light the torches



ADRIAN LAHOLA-CHOMIAK "While the trials have *metaphorically* dragged the Muslim community over the coals, there has been a significant lack of *real* action. Call me old school, but when the crier calls out for a witch-hunt, I expect to see fires lit, gallows erected, and ducks wrangled for the weigh scales."

he's a witch! Burn her! Who hasn't felt their heart skip a beat in excitement as the town crier runs down the street, signaling for us to grab our favourite torch and prepare to burn the demons out of some wayward soul? Unfortunately, today's witch hunts fail to impress the same air of urgency and sense of community-building as the great burnings of the past. McCarthyism, Salem — these moments hold a hallowed place in our history.

But there is hope — a Republican congressman from New York, Peter King, has spearheaded a new wave of fear by holding hearings on "The Extent of Radicalization in the American Muslim Community and that Community's Response," which began on March 10. As the head of the House Homeland Security committee, King certainly has the power to rekindle the witch hunt, but I fear that his opponents would bring us to a dark time of equality.

The hearings centre on the fear that homegrown Muslim extremist groups may be developing throughout the United States. King decided that rather than engage in real investigative work, he would simply paint all American Muslims with the brush of extremism and wait for them to throw out the terrorists in their ranks. It seems that

we may have a witch-hunt to match the neighbour vs. neighbour brutality of McCarthyism.

While the trials have *metaphori-cally* dragged the Muslim community over the coals, there has been a significant lack of *real* action. Call me old school, but when the crier calls out for a witch-hunt, I expect to see fires lit, gallows erected, and ducks wrangled for the weigh scales. Are discriminatory hearings really the best we can develop? Hundreds of years ago the masters at Salem put on the quintessential trial, and we owe it to them to honour that legacy.

However, a liberal coalition led by the American Civil Liberties Union is claiming that "treating an entire community as suspect because of the bad acts or intolerant statements of a few is imprudent and unfair, and in the past has only led to greater misunderstanding, injustice and discrimination." Obviously, that goes without saying — that's why it's called a witch-burt

— that's why it's called a witch-hunt. Who care if we're violating people's basic civil rights?

Opponents also cite King's past support of the IRA as boldfaced hypocrisy. Others call King a bigot, a neo-conservative blowhard, the walking embodiment of xenophobia and discrimination, rivaled only by the likes of Richard Nixon. His

supporters, however, have been able to cloak themselves in the tragedy of 9/11, effectively fending offall charges of prejudice.

It's time that those of us who support a Bronze Age-style justice system stand up and be counted. Fundamental adherence to a legal system that ensures equality under the law and a defense of our inalienable rights has gotten us ... well, okay, pretty far, but surely that doesn't refute the wisdom in seeing witches as being made of wood.

Supporting King's effort is of the utmost importance if we wish to see society regress back to an era of phobia-based persecution. It's the principle of the thing — sure, Muslims aren't witches. But if I'm irrationally scared of a particular group of people for no good reason, we must try our best to persecute them. This mode of thinking is central to the long and illustrious tradition of despots, monarchs, and tyrants alike.

With the ways of the witch-hunt all but forgotten and the liberal media, society, and common sense, all trying to convince us that the vast majority of the Muslim population are caring, peaceful, and law-abiding citizens, we can't ignore those who are trying to rekindle the flame of hate. In this day and age, they are the guardians of our prejudices.

### THREELINESFREE

Got something that you need to get off your mind? Either email us at threelinesfree@gateway.ualberta.ca, tweet @threelinesfree, or message us at www.thegatewayonline.ca/threelinesfree

Lost: set of keys on U of A residences lanyard. Please bring to *Gateway* office if found. I'll give you five bucks.

Oh hey boy in the Timmies line up... I like your face.

To the guy in my ANTHR101 class who wears the brownish Sessions pinstriping Jacket, you and your friend who wears the black are very, very good looking guys;)

Must've mistaken Tighe for someone else on exec- could've sworn he was hot.....and then I saw his picture in the Gateway

You're not 5 anymore to be dragging your feet while you walk. Spare us that excruciating noise and LIFT your feet DAMIT:@

Day light savings is a BITCH!!!!!

Dr. David Schindler is the man!! I have such a lady-boner for him right meow!

Dude somebody's gotta get the fruitfly situation in SUB under control... I think I just microwaved a few of them.

Want to talk in class? Leave. These courses are expensive, and I paid to listen to the profs, not to Random Q. Jackass.

ATTN Fly Honeys: stop taking classes with your friends. It makes it impossible to talk to you.

Can we not have 4 midterms in 1 day? I mean, one is enough, 2 is manageable, 3 is borderline crazy, but 4???? What the fuck?

dear girl playing ken ken on the computer in the ruth lib with her bf: I DIDIN'T KNOW IT WAS POSSIBLE TO CHEW GUM THAT LOUD! I can't hear myself think...because you sound like a cow.

Why do you fuckers want a fall reading week? Does starting in August sound like a good time to you? FUCK NO, I want to spend my summer to do stuff UNRELATED to school. Do you want to start in August because you have no friends to spend your summer with?!?!?!?!

I see you driving 'round town with the girl I love and I'm like Haiku

Thanks for the fashion editorial, Gateway! I was having trouble deciding what to spend my extra buckets of money on. Now I'll go buy that \$1000 jacket.

Can't get enough of Cannelloni Friday at La Pasta

1 in 6 my ass!

To all the students who keep complaining about transit service, stop being so broke and go buy a car. That is all.

Does anyone else love the new, but temporary, folded Gateway?

In a perfect world, the U of A would have pedways connecting every building.

that guy who was watching dragon ball z while doing homework in nref is my hero. lets hook up bro.

I can't believe the amount of idiots this university contains.

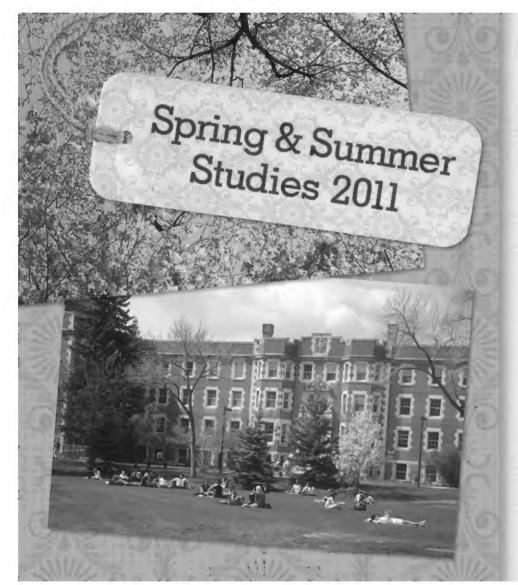
Madeline Smith is gorgeous! You should put her picture in The Gateway more

Hey assholes, I walk the wrong way down HUB because it's faster to go against traffic then with it. If you don't like that then speed

Really? The person who put up posters that say "U R attracting mice" in the Education building couldn't spell out "You Are"? I

thought we were a place of higher learning.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit any submissions, as well as refuse publication of any submission it deems racist, sexist, hateful, libellous, or overtly offensive. The Gateway cannot guarantee that your submission will be used (but we'll try). Submissions should be 130 characters max (including spaces).

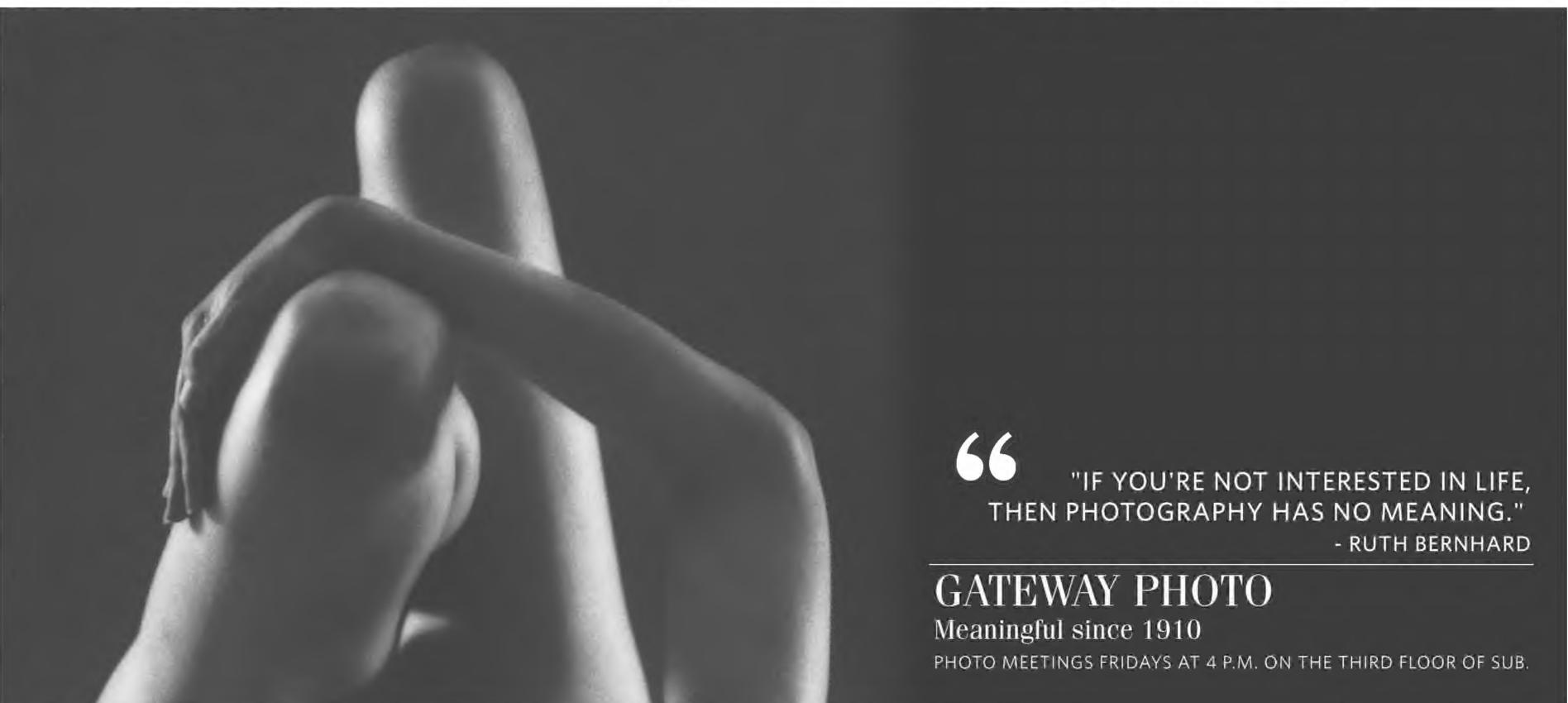


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DARCY ROPCHAN EXPLORES WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A LADIES' MAN

### You can smell it. Spring is coming ...

Birds are returning from the south, the snow is melting, and hormones are raging like the Red River through Winnipeg. But it's not only animals who will be looking and fighting for a mate to reproduce with this spring. Students will soon discard their books and attempt to do the same. And I thought, if animals can engage in strange and wonderful mating rituals and be successful, then why can't !?

he thought of spending another year wandering campus alone sends chills down my spine, so I decided to learn from the experts and develop my game with an eye to meeting someone.

My name is Darcy. I enjoy long walks on the beach and I'm a great listener.

I set out to re-invent myself as an expert pickup artist, hoping it would help me get more numbers than an engineering seminar. In my research, I found no shortage of books, intensive seminars, and boot camps to turn a sexually-frustrated chump into a Casanova.

But after looking over what the self-appointed pickup masters had to say, I quickly realized that what was being pushed was nothing more than a system of routines and lines to say to a woman in order to get her attention. Members of the pickup community tend to beat their chests and brag about their accomplishments, instead of teaching how to build real, lasting attraction between members of the opposite sex.

Even before I began my research, I knew one trick for picking up women: find an easy ice breaker, maybe a dog or something equally as cute and stupid. I once paid a friend \$50 to rent his fourmonth-old baby for a couple hours so I could walk it around the park. The amount of girls who came up to me to fuss over the baby and ask me if I was a single father was absolutely astounding. My pockets were full of numbers by the end of the day. Later on, I put the baby down on a bench outside of a convenience store so I could run in and buy a coffee and a newspaper. When I came back, the baby was gone. Which was weird because I swear I remembered tying it's leash to the bench outside the store.

Despite my pocket full of numbers, the single father lie couldn't continue with a missing baby, so obviously my previous knowledge had some limitations. I needed to hear new viewpoints from actual professionals on how to build attraction and be myself at the same time. I'm not an expert on the opposite sex, but I know that no two women are the same. It's important to be versatile, witty, and a quick thinker. Memorizing lines and fake routines on a card won't work and will make you look like a tool. Women can smell fear, and if you don't know what you're doing, they will devour you like a shark devours minced fish. And I don't mean that in a good way.

"There are different things for different people out there in the dating world," explains Cara Anderson, a dating coach based out of Calgary. "Men need to do the approaching. Unfortunately, biology plays a part in the fact that men need to be more of a hunter."

Searching for a partner is easy; you just have to know what you're looking for. It's finding the right thing to say and do that's the real problem. Anyone can walk up to a girl and say,

"Your skin would make a beautiful lampshade." But how do you keep her attention after she's been wooed by your suave lines? Toronto dating Coach Evan Dwyer says that it's all about appearing a bit rough around the edges.

"Your inner bad boy is the part of yourself that men tend to hide from women," says Dwyer. "[Nice guys] play down the fact that they are sexual beings and it usually drains the chemistry out of their interactions with women. When you're trying to 'get something,' it feels off for women,

and it's a recipe for rejection." So it turns out that nice guys do finish last. If you're hoping to get a date with the cute secretary in the arts office, you're going to have to be forward, but not too forward. Otherwise she'll think you're an oversexed pervert, and that never works out well. I have the restraining orders to prove it.

But there's more to finding a mate than throwing on a dirty shirt and adopting a facial expression that could turn away a Hell's Angel.

"I think the best policy is honesty [when talking to girls]. [Say], 'I think you're cute, I'd love to take you out," says Anderson.

If there's one thing I've learned, it's that being honest and forward with what you want is important, otherwise you'll end up in the hell that is the friend zone. It's also important to be confident and look a woman in the eye. I learned this the hard way last year luggage was lost so I had no way of when a woman on the bus screamed at me for staring at her chest. I tried playing it off by saying breasts were the eyes of the chest. She didn't get it, and had the bus driver revoke my pass. So make sure you look into her actual eyes.

Even then, a few polite words can only take you so far. Until a girl talks to you and gets to know you, she'll be judging you on your appearance, which can be trouble for someone like me who feels most comfortable in ratty sweatpants and an old t-shirt with holes in the underarm. Same goes for grooming.

One time I was in an airport after just getting off a red eye flight, when I noticed a cute girl at baggage claim that I wouldn't have minded getting to know. Unfortunately, my

freshening up and my clothes smelled like I had been wearing them for a couple days. But that didn't deter me from talking to her.

At first she was disgusted by my justwoke-up breath and hair style, so she tried to run. I ran after her, hoping it would prove how dedicated I was to making this work. However she didn't understand, so she screamed for security and I was arrested. She was shallow though. I'm sure if I had been dressed nicely and had fresh breath she wouldn't have had a problem with me chasing after her and drooling. So looking good is a must.

But at the end of the day, as clichéd as it sounds, just be yourself. Don't expect to be successful on your first time out. After all, you can't make an omelet without breaking a few eggs.





### Riding Hood deserves to be fed to the big, bad wolf

### filmreview

### **Red Riding Hood**

Directed by Catherine Hardwicke Written by David Johnson Starring Amanda Seyfried, Billy Burke, and Shiloh Fernandez Now Playing

DULGUUN BAYASGALAN Arts & Entertainment Staff

Once upon a time, there was a little movie called *Red Riding Hood*, and the only thing legendary about it was that it was an epic failure.

A retelling of the classic Grimm Brothers' fairytale in a movie adaptation might initially sound neat and spark some interest, but all hope and curiosity are mercilessly crushed once you see the trailer. Let's hope your intrigue — and anything else that makes you want to watch this movie — are also eliminated.

The film is everything you would expect from the same director who gave us the first *Twilight* movie. Riddled with vapid dialogue that induces junior-high-drama-club acting at best, there is little that separates this from the infamous vampire saga. Actually, if little red riding hood was the victim... er, subject of Stephanie Meyer's stories instead of vampires, this is probably what you would get.

The plot isn't exactly true to the original story of *Little Red Riding Hood*, although it desperately and awkwardly tries. It teeters between a love triangle, a whodunit murder mystery, and a supernatural thriller, while unceremoniously throwing in lines from the original fairytale.

In the opening scenes, we are a human, and is someone among

hastily introduced to a village burdened by age-old werewolf hauntings. As for the red-hooded heroine, Valerie (Amanda Seyfried), she's involved in a furtive love affair with jock woodcutter Peter (Shiloh Fernandez), but at the same time is engaged to marry the hunky blacksmith Henry (Max Irons). Valerie and Peter exchange a couple of lifeless lines like, "I'd do anything to be with you" and "I'm wrong for you" while rolling around on the grass—sound familiar?

Before we can get a good feel for Bella and Edward — I mean, Val and Pete — a werewolf threat befalls the village once again. They call upon a werewolf specialist, Father Solomon (Gary Oldman) for help, who rolls into town with his entourage and big metal elephant. That's right, a big metal elephant. He enlightens everyone about how a werewolf becomes a human and is someone among

the villagers. And thus the whodunit shenanigans begin.

From here onwards, the plot only gets messier and the movie manages to do everything that most moviegoers complain about: a flat script, bad CGI, unfashionably absurd set, etc. And of course, any attempt to reproduce sparkly-vampiresque stories is worthy of a dubious gold star.

With all that said, you can't help but get the distasteful feeling that the only thought running through the filmmakers' minds was, "My, Twilight, what big bucks you've made." But before we begin handing out the pitchforks to slay this monstrosity, perhaps there's an underlying message that's a little more profound than "stay true to your supernatural boyfriend."

In fact, it almost seems like Red Riding Hood might not be a silly horror flick, but a meticulously crafted parody,

whether it knows it or not.

It draws transparent parallels with *Twilight*, commits an unlawfully large number of clichés, and has a comically obvious incongruity with modern-day *Gossip Girl* teenagers frolicking about in a medieval village. These could easily give it a subtle but clever satirical flavour. This movie has the unique ability to function in two different demographics; it works as a semi-sexy fairytale fantasy for the *Twilight* enthusiasts, and for others, it's so comically abysmal that it can work as a well-cloaked parody.

Who am I kidding? This is an awful film. Neither a far-stretched interpretation nor the alluring Amanda Seyfried can save this. It is nothing more than, and barely succeeds as, mindless entertainment.

Let's hope the gingerbread man runs, runs, runs as fast as he can before this film gets a sequel.

### An immersive journey into a tortured love story with Hunchback

### theatrereview

### Hunchback

Written by Victor Hugo
Adapted by Jonathan Christenson
and Bretta Gerecke
Directed by Jonathan Christenson
Starring Ron Pederson, Ava Jane
Markus, Scott Walters, and Ryan Reid
The Citadel Theatre
(9828-101A Avenue)
Runs until March 27 at 7:30 p.m.
No show Mondays, 1:30 p.m.
matinées on Sundays
\$50.40 at the Citadel box office

ALANA WILLERTON
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Imagine a love so powerful and all-consuming that that you can literally think of nothing else — something that in its most seductive and potent moments also has the ability to torture your very soul. A love that you would not only die for, but also kill for. This kind of emotion is something that is difficult for most of us to imagine, much less adequately portray. And yet somehow, the Catalyst Theatre's masterpiece *Hunchback* manages to do

just that, dragging us into a world of unimaginable pain and passion, all in the name of love.

This adaptation of Victor Hugo's 1831 novel The Hunchback of Notre Dame focuses on the relationship between three characters: Quasimodo (Ron Pederson), the hunchbacked bell ringer who lives in the towers of Notre Dame; Claude Frollo (Scott Walters), a tormented priest; and La Esmeralda (Ava Jane Markus), a beguiling gypsy. A mangled love triangle begins to emerge as Frollo develops an obsessive and dangerous love for La Esmeralda, who in turn finds herself smitten with the captain of the guards. Meanwhile, Quasimodo, in all his loneliness, experiences the joys of friendship for the very first time as he finds an unlikely companion in La Esmeralda.

Hunchback is different from past adaptations in that it refuses to focus on a sole character. The title character sometimes takes a back seat to allow the stories of La Esmeralda and Claude Frollo to come to the forefront. Unaccustomed to such an in-depth examination of previously overlooked characters, it feels as if we are being fully introduced to them for the very first time.

In a show where every performance becomes a standout at one time or another, Hunchback finds its backbone in Ava Jane Markus' portrayal of La Esmeralda, encapsulating the very essence of a gypsy impassioned to a fault. However, perhaps the most impressive portrayal is Scott Walters as Frollo. After all, obsession, infatuation, and tortured love are not emotions we tend to come by every day, and yet Walters manages to pack all of these things into his performance. Ron Pederson has a somewhat different task from the others, but succeeds in capturing the desolate loneliness of the sheltered Quasimodo. Expressing a different kind of love, Pederson is as gentle and vulnerable one moment as he is tormented the next.

The exceptional acting performances are not the only standouts to be found in *Hunchback*. Metal bars that drape down from the ceiling like spider legs make up the stage's set; a minimalist but effective approach to a story that would have otherwise required several complicated changes of scenery. The wide range of music, played either in the background or as vocal accompaniment, both raises goosebumps and



DANMCKECHNIE

heightens the dramatic performances as the actors respond to violent outbursts of melodramatic sound.

For those hoping to experience the optimistic and kid-friendly fun of Disney, don't be fooled: *Hunchback* is a dark, complicated look into a story about devastating love and passion. Still, while the costumes may be more

avant-garde, the sets more interpretive, and the music more impassioned than in performances past, the ultimate message of *Hunchback* remains the same: our motivation for everything we do and feel is love. It seems impossible that anyone could feel anything less than love for the brilliance of a production like this.

### Extraterrestrial effects can't rescue abysmal alien film

### filmreview

#### **Battle: Los Angeles**

Directed by Jonathan Liebesman Written by Christopher Bertolini Starring Aaron Eckhart, Cory Hardrict, Ne-Yo, and Michelle Rodriguez Now Playing

**KORY ORBAN** 

Arts & Entertainment Writer

Aliens and explosions should make for action movie greatness, but *Battle:* Los Angeles manages to screw the pooch on this one.

Science fiction films are known to forgo plot and character development for flashy special effects, and this movie is no exception. But visual magic can only do so much to improve a fundamentally weak film, and awe-inspiring scenes do not negate the need for likeable characters, good acting, and believable plotlines.

Battle: Los Angeles tells the story of a group of marines being sent into the hostile territory of Santa Monica to rescue any remaining civilians before the captured city is levelled by the U.S. Air Force. But even before the aliens invade, the film's problems are already glaring. The characters are so flat they border on stereotype: the young marine about to be married, the even younger marine who is terrified by the prospects of combat, the inexperienced commanding officer with a baby on the way, and the hardened veteran who is a couple of weeks away from retirement. Who knew they made cookie cutters large enough for movie marine clichés?

The characters are so boringly unsurprising that it's almost infuriating, and their paint-by-number development is worsened by the fact that no one in the film can actually act. The emotional climax of the film should have been the confrontation between Corporal Jason Lockett (Cory Hardrict) and Staff Sergeant Michael Nantz (Aaron Eckhart). Nantz is suspected of being responsible for the death of Lockett's older brother, who was under Nantz's command on a previous tour. But even with a premise as gripping as the death of a family member, the scene is nothing more than an opportunity for Eckhart to show off his pearly whites, gritting his teeth while droning on about his supposed regrets.

Visual magic can only do so much to improve a fundamentally weak film, and awe-inspiring scenes do not negate the need for likeable characters, good acting, and believable plotlines.

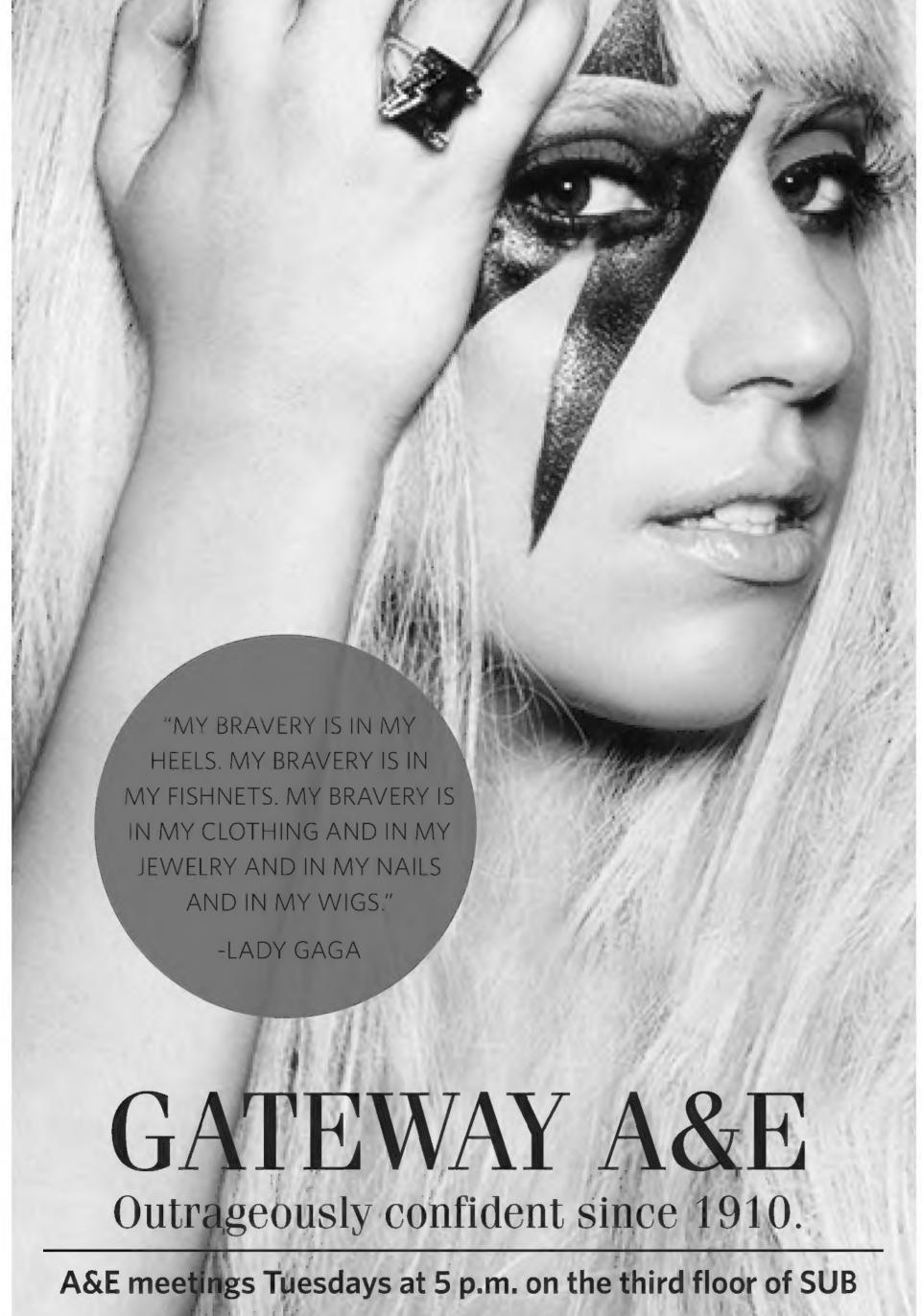
Beyond the nuances of what should have been an exceptionally compelling scene, the actions of the detachment of soldiers as a whole are consistently absurd, and their reactions during combat are constantly over-the-top. The

death of an alien is always met with cheers, and the death of a marine is always met with tears — without fail.

But, ultimately, this movie is about aliens and shit being blown up, right? On that note, *Battle: Los Angeles* does look pretty cool. The combat scenes move at a thrilling pace, the aliens are pretty gnarly, and yes, there are a lot

of explosions. Unfortunately, all this is pointless when there is really nothing beyond the movie's special effects to hold it together.

Computer-generated imagery was heralded as a cinematic revolution. It was supposed to shorten and simplify the divide between audience and creator by allowing a filmmaker to expose an audience to the extremity of their imagination without the limitations of reality, as we know it. Unfortunately, in the case of *Battle: Los Angeles*, even a limitless special effects budget could not have saved the film from its multitude of other problems. Thus, *Battle: Los Angeles* minus your time makes for a good decision.







### A world of artistic superheroes

### theatrepreview

#### **Next Year's Man of Steel**

Directed by John Hudson Written by David Belke Starring Ryan Cunningham, Mark Jenkins, Anna Maria LeMaistre, and John Wright Varscona Theatre (10329-83 Avenue) Runs March 16 to April 3 at 7:30 p.m., with 2 p.m. matinées on Saturdays and Sundays No shows on Mondays \$10-26 at tix-on-the-square or at the door

NATALIA KNOWLTON **Arts & Entertainment Writer** 

Whether it's your first video game or your first favourite book, we can all remember those inspiring moments in our childhood that build our foundation as human beings. The influence of those experiences can set us on the paths that determine our entire futures, or simply inspire the next big project of our lives. For David Belke, Shadow Theatre's playwright-in-residence, his original love for comic books inspired him to write his new play, Next Year's Man of Steel.

"I've always been a fan of comic books ever since I was growing up, and I've always been fascinated with artists and creation," Belke says. "Comic books themselves are a

fascinating medium: it's a combination of art and text and literature. Part of the thing that fascinated me about comic books, especially about the early days, is it's so much about team effort. You have a writer and an artist."

The writer in Belke's story is Everett Gardner (Mark Jenkins), a starving artist living in New York in 1940 who has been given the opportunity to create a new comic book and the next big superhero. He's teamed up with an artist, Simon Reed (Ryan Cunningham), whose opposing views on heroism are not making Gardner's job any easier. And on top of the pressure of being a part of the comic book revolution, the men also have to face the problems that come with the Great Depression and the Second World War.

"It was so much [about] these young men who had nowhere else to go," Belke explains of the play's setting. "The world in 1940 is kind of a scary place: we're still in the final days of the Great Depression, meanwhile Germans are running all over Europe and dropping bombs on England. Just being around in that time period is very high stakes."

Although the time period was undoubtedly stressful, it was also exciting for those who were in the middle of the development of comic books. The novelty of this industry allowed the people making the new art to create their own rules.

"[Comic books] were born in the

Taking part in a brand new artistic movement is exhilarating, but also frightening as the rules around it are still unclear. For the characters in Next Year's Man of Steel, this struggle begins to manifest itself on a personal level. In this way, Belke says, the play also examines what it is that defines a hero.

"A man with superpowers going out and stopping some comic thugs — is that a hero? That seems a bit of a mismatch. Is it a guy who keeps his identity a secret? Is that heroic?" Belke asks. "And what exactly is the definition of hero — not only in the comic space, but in real life?"

The main appeal of comic books in 1940 was the model of a hero, which isn't surprising, considering the larger political context: people in North America and Europe were in desperate need to be saved from the turmoil of the War and the Depression. Not much has changed, even 71 years later: everyone still looks for heroes in a time of need.

"The search and the need for heroes is universal," Belke says. "We're still searching for a person we can aspire to be, who stands for our ideals. Hopefully they'll come and save us when we need them."

20th century and so you're literally having people at that time inventing the art form, inventing the convention, inventing what it is," Belke notes. "And that's kind of fun too, watching people figure out exactly what it is they're doing."

of a rock choir. But after the first track, the album plunges deeper and deeper into obscurity with eccentrically titled songs like "Squid Tits," which sounds like someone is beating a cat with a jack in the box while it rakes its claws across a chalkboard. This is followed up with "Porno Is A Mustang," a mashup of some kind of techno-R&B nightmare that sounds nowhere as cool as the title

> suggests. Crocker tries to redeem himself near the album's end with mellow-sounding tracks like "Beaver Hat Man" and "I've Just Destroyed The World," providing a nice, chilled-out feel for Co-Stars' conclusion. However, this still can't save the album, and in the end, Co-Stars is little more than a giant, confusing mess.



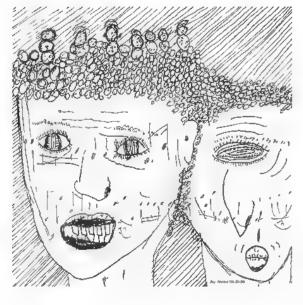


Whether you're a human, a dog, or a bubble gum princess, you should have enough wiggly arms and legs to draw a comic. Just watch out for the Ice King; he'll try to ruin your punchline with excessive ice lightning bolts.

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### albumreview Jay Crocker

Co-Stars Saved by Radio

DARCY ROPCHAN Arts & Entertainment Staff

We've been taught not to judge something by its cover. But in the case of Jay Crocker's Co-Stars, the cover, featuring a bizarrely-drawn picture of some half cyclops Siamese twins, is an early warning that the tracks on this record are just as strange and irritating. Crocker has created a CD that tries to

portray itself as a charming folk album mixed with some weird instrumental experiments, but in the end, it simply has no direction.

The album shows signs of promise at first with the rhythmic drumbeats of the song "Super Disease," with Crocker's voice sounding like he's part

# SPORTS

### **BEARS HOCKEY**

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 11



3





#### Score by Period

A perta	2	0	1	3
Man <sup>-</sup> topa	0	0	0	0

AB Goals: Derek Ryan (2), Sean Ringrose

AB Assists: Ben Lindemu der, Eric Hunter, ...P. Szaszkiewicz, Ian Barteaux, Cnad K assen (2)

Goalie Stats	GA	SH	SV
AB - Kurt's Mucha	0	32	32
CGY - Kris Lazaruk	0	5	5
CGY - Dustin But er	3	24	21

Game Stats	АВ	CGY
Snots	29	32
Powerp ay	0/5	0/5

#### **Three Stars**

AB - Derek Ryan (2 goa s)
 AB - Kurt's Mucha (32 saves)
 AB - Chad Klassen (2 assists)

### **SATURDAY, MARCH 12**









### Score by Period

A perta	2	5	1	8
Ca gary	1	0	0	1

AB Goals: Jonnny Lazo (2), J.P. Szaszkiewicz (2), Derek Ryan, Sean Ringrose, Chad Klassen, Ian Barteaux

AB Assists: Ben Lindemu der (2), Derek Ryan (2), A ex Rodgers (2), Eric Hunter, Sean Ringrose, Lindsay Nie sen, Greg Gardner, "P. Szaszkiewicz, Ian Barteaux, Cnad Klassen (4)

Goalie Stats	GA	SH	SV
AB - Kurt's Mucna	1	16	15
CGY - Kris Lazaruk	4	20	16
CGY - Dustin But er	4	23	19

Game Stats	АВ	CGY
Snots	43	16
Powerp ay	4/9	0/4

### Three Stars

AB - Cnad K assen (1 goa , 4 assists)
 AB - ...P. Szaszkiewicz (2 goa s, 1 assist)

3. AB - .onnny Lazo (2 goa s)

### Bears send the Calgary Dinos packing

After claiming their fourth straight CanWest banner this weekend, Bears head to CIS nationals

### hockey roundup

#### **Bears vs. Calgary Dinos**

MATT HIRJI Sports Editor

The Puck Bears trampled their provincial rivals to claim their fourth straight Canada West conference title this weekend at Clare Drake Arena.

From the moment the black rubber graced the ice to start the pressurized series between the Calgary Dinos and the Green and Gold emerged the aggressors. Outscoring the Dinos by a combined total of 11–1 over the course of the weekend, the Bears squad displayed a gritty determination to claim their team's 49th Canada West banner. But for fifth-year forward Chad Klassen, who played his last varsity game at Clare Drake Arena on Saturday, his team's triumph this weekend was bittersweet.

"It's a little emotional leaving Clare Drake," Klassen said. "To be honest I hadn't really thought about it until my mom mentioned it to me this morning. But for me and a couple other guys who are in their fifth year, it's pretty special. I'm happy that we're going out with a bang."

Acknowledging that it was his last opportunity to shine on the white ice at Clare Drake Arena, Klassen said that he was able to find another gear this weekend, racking up five assists and one goal in the weekend series. But the Bears success didn't come from the Saskatoon native's stick alone. Over the course of the weekend, seven Bears got in on the scoring act, including a goal by veteran Derek Ryan in the first minute of play on Saturday that launched the Green and Gold to a series-clinching victory.

"That was great. For Derek Ryan to get that goal early for us, that was huge. It was a big part of the win tonight," said Bears head coach Eric Thurston while his team collected the Dr. W.G. Hardy Trophy as Canada West men's hockey champions. "We just kept coming. I thought the speed of our game really helped us. They looked a bit tired and we just kept going."

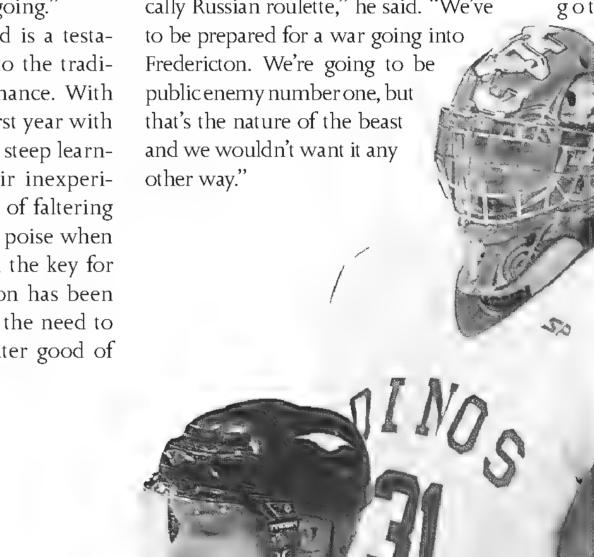
The Bears' triumph this weekend is a testament to the squad's commitment to the traditional Green and Gold puck dominance. With more than half the roster in their first year with the program, the Bears have faced a steep learning curve this season. Due to their inexperience, the Bears attack has the habit of faltering in the neutral zone and losing their poise when the team needs it most. As a result, the key for Thurston's coaching staff this season has been to reiterate for their young players the need to forgo individual glory for the greater good of the team.

"Sacrifice is a process. When players come in understanding the commitment that it takes to be a winner every day, it makes for a successful team. It's not a light switch that you can turn off and on every day. You have to learn to win every day. This is sort of a reflection of the pinnacle of the season," Thurston said.

The Bears will face more hurdles this season. After claiming the prestigious Canada West championship, the Green and Gold will be the team to beat when they head to Fredericton for the CIS national tournament to fight it out against the best that Canadian varsity hockey has to offer. But the Bears only need to win their next three games to claim their 14th national championship in team history. For Thurston, it's just the task that he's ready to tackle

ready to tackle.

"I think we're playing our best hockey right now, but when you get into the nationals, it's basically Russian roulette," he said. "We've got to be prepared for a war going into Fredericton. We're going to be public enemy number one but





THE GATEWAY • volume CI number 39

SPORTS 13

### Calgary's lack of sportsmanship worth a fist-shaking



DAUM

Sports Commentary

here's something symbolic about shaking hands at the end of a hard-fought hockey series. It signifies that, despite whatever happened on the ice, when the final buzzer sounds, sportsmanship and respect for your opposition are the only things that really matter.

Apparently this message has been lost on Calgary Dinos assistant coach Cory Cross. After his team got throttled 8–1 by the Golden Bears hockey team on Saturday night, Cross decided he'd show his frustration Saturday night by refusing to shake hands with Bears head coach Eric Thurston at the conclusion of the Canada West Finals.

It wasn't the first time that the Dinos backbencher chose a less than classy way to exhibit his frustrations. After last year's Canada West semifinals, Cross pulled a similar stunt after the Dinos were swept by the Green and Gold in the heated playoff series.

Cross has publicly stated that he has an issue with Thurston, and after watching the Bears dismantle the Dinos in the playoffs for a second straight year, his emotions got the best of him.

Calgary was more than irked Saturday night after watching Thurston roll out his top powerplay unit in the third period — well after the game was within the Dinos reach. And when the Bears made it 8–1, the Dinos retaliated with unmitigated aggression. Second-year defencemen Eric Frere intentionally fired a shot into the Bears' bench after the puck drop, drawing an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty.

Maybe Alberta should've scaled back the attack in an attempt not to embarrass the Dinos in the third period — I could argue that. One thing that I can't come to terms with, however, is not shaking hands after the game. Things didn't go the Dinos way, and they may have been hot under the collar at a coaching move by Alberta, but when the final whistle blows, it's time to be a man and do the right thing — just shake hands.



AARON YEO



When Houston
Oilers head
coach Bum
Phillips was
asked why he
takes his wife
on all the
team's road
trips he
responded,
"Because she's
too ugly to kiss
goodbye."

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### Puck Pandas redeemed by fifth-place finish at nationals

### hockeyroundup

MARISSA HERNER

The Cord (Wilfrid Laurier University)

Waterloo, Ont. (CUP) — The University of Alberta Puck Pandas had a lot to prove when they downed the Manitoba Bisons to claim fifth place at the CIS national championship tournament this weekend in Waterloo.

After the Pandas lost their first two games of the weekend to the McGill Martlets and the Queen's University Gaels, the defending champion Pandas had their pride on the line as they stepped on the ice against the Bisons in a Canada West finals re-match. And despite a shaky start, the Green and Gold triumphed in their final game of the season, trouncing the Bisons 5–2 in the consolation match.

"After the Canada West finals, we had something to prove [...]
This was our chance to prove that our team was better."

**MELODY HOWARD** 

FORWARD, PANDAS HOCKEY

"After the Canada West finals we had something to prove," said fifth-year Pandas forward Melody Howard, referring to the Green and Gold's disappointing loss to the Bisons just two weeks ago. "We outshot them in the [Canada West finals] and we felt like we could have been the better team if we were consistent. This was our chance to prove that our team was better."

The pace of play over the weekend was much faster than it had been in the past between the two teams. From the moment the puck dropped in the first period, the play was characterized by

MOSTVALUABLE PAPER SUPPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

FILE PHOTO:MATT HIRJI

aggressive back-checking, strong shots from the point, and scrums in the crease — it was clear that both teams wanted to finish their seasons off with a taste of triumph.

But Alberta's offensive firepower proved to be the deciding factor in the game. As they moved the puck along the boards and up the middle of the ice, Manitoba became overwhelmed by the Green and Gold's assertive offensive presence.

While both teams came out equally driven

and energetic, by the end of the second period the Pandas had drained the Bisons tank. Leading by three goals at the end of the second period, it was evident that the Pandas were the superior team.

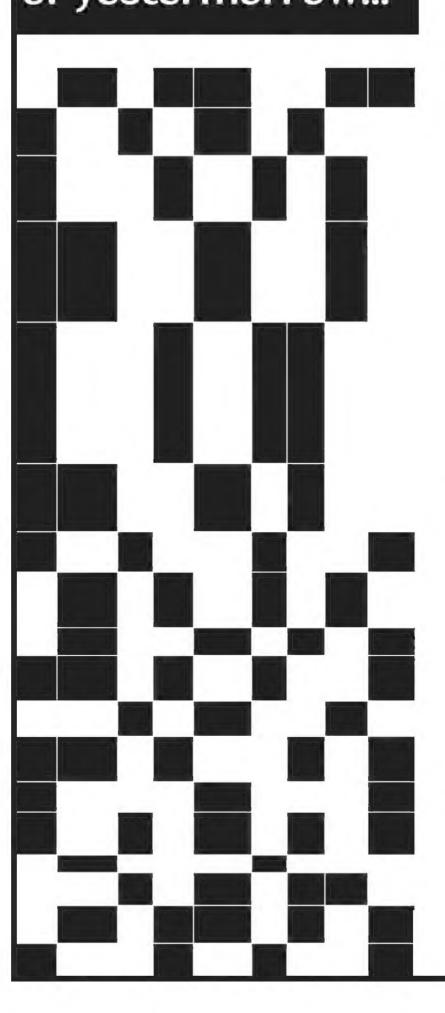
Using their championship-winning experience, the Pandas dominated the Bisons in the third period. Outshooting the Bisons 10–4 in the final frame, the Green and Gold finished off their season in style, retaining their pride while

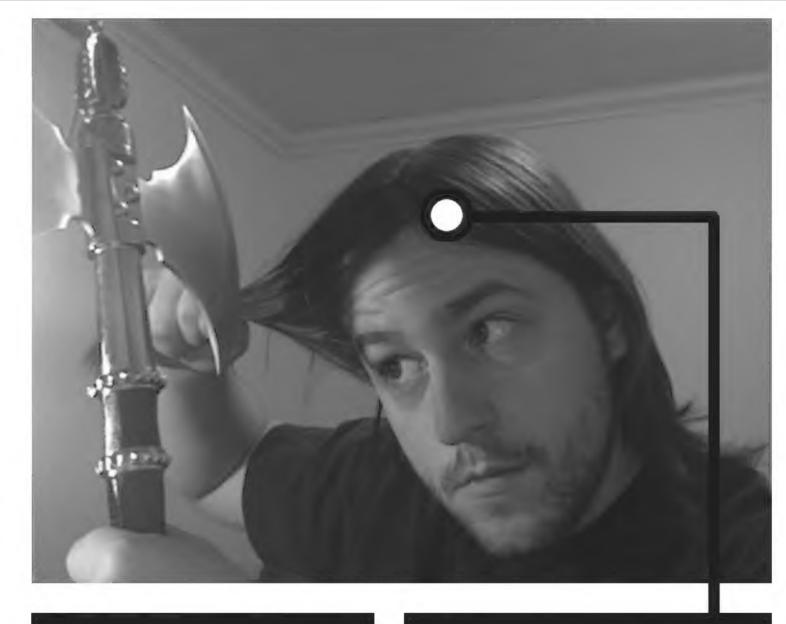
setting themselves up for another successful season next year. And while team was unable to bring home the championship banner, Alberta's head coach Howie Draper was still proud of his team's effort at the tournament.

"This game was the most consistent game, but every team comes hoping to win the gold. We're no different," Draper said. "It felt like our girls played with a lot of pride and determination."

# 2011/2012

Meet your editors of yestermorrow...





Trying to spread the lies we refer to as "News" will be Aaron Yeo, a regular man about town.

With a wit as sharp as a battle axe, Ryan Bromsgrove will edit the Opinion section next year.



Alexandria Eldridge will captain this crew of miscreants next year as Editor-in-Chief.



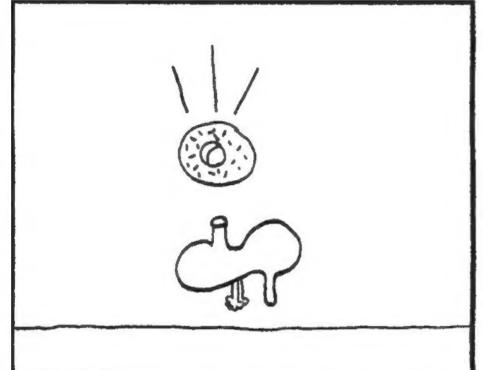
Luckily, she'll be backed up by the handsome Ross Vincent, who will bring the pretty as Design & Production Editor.

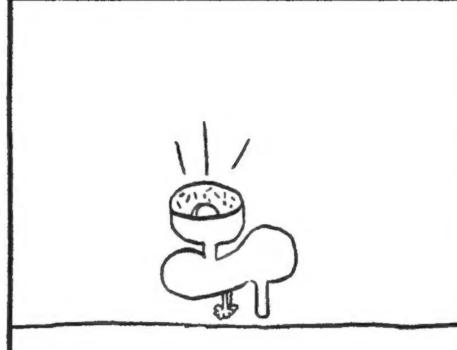
GOOD LUCK! I LEFT YOU MY POOP IN THE FRIDGE AS A PRANK.

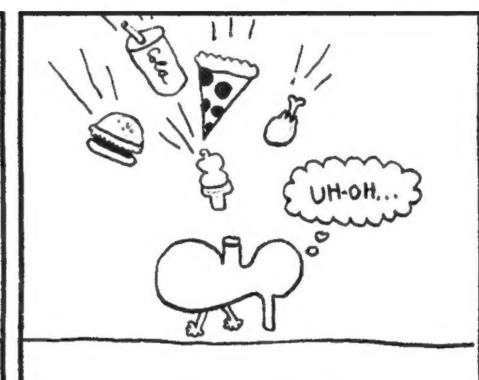
#### **PEOPLE WATCHING** by Faye Campbell

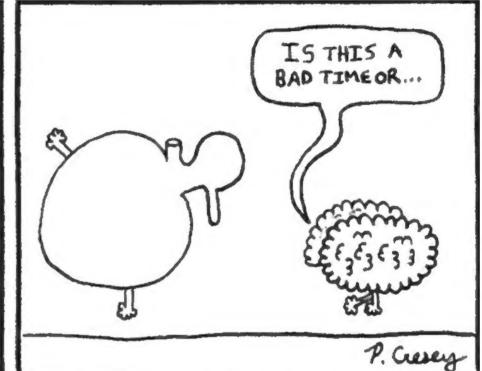


#### THE UNCONSCIOUS KIND by Paul Cresey

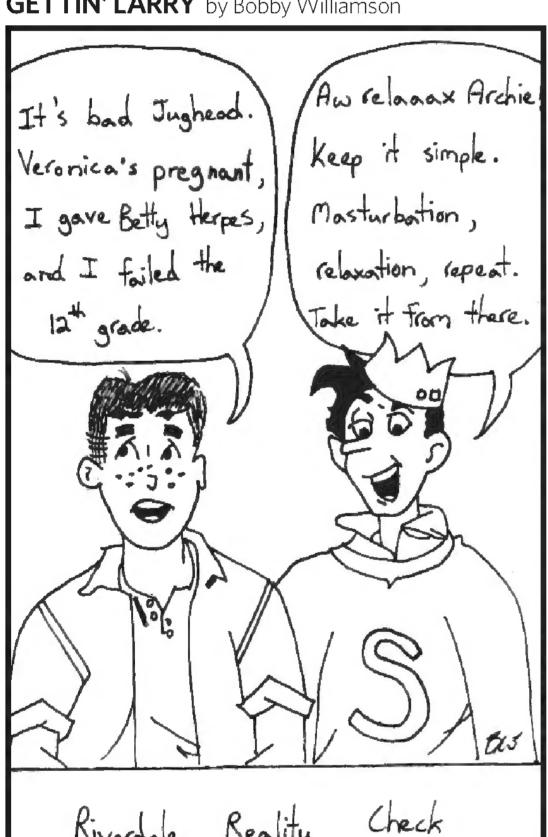








**GETTIN' LARRY** by Bobby Williamson



**THE MYSTERY** by Lindsay Laltoo - The Argosy (CUP)





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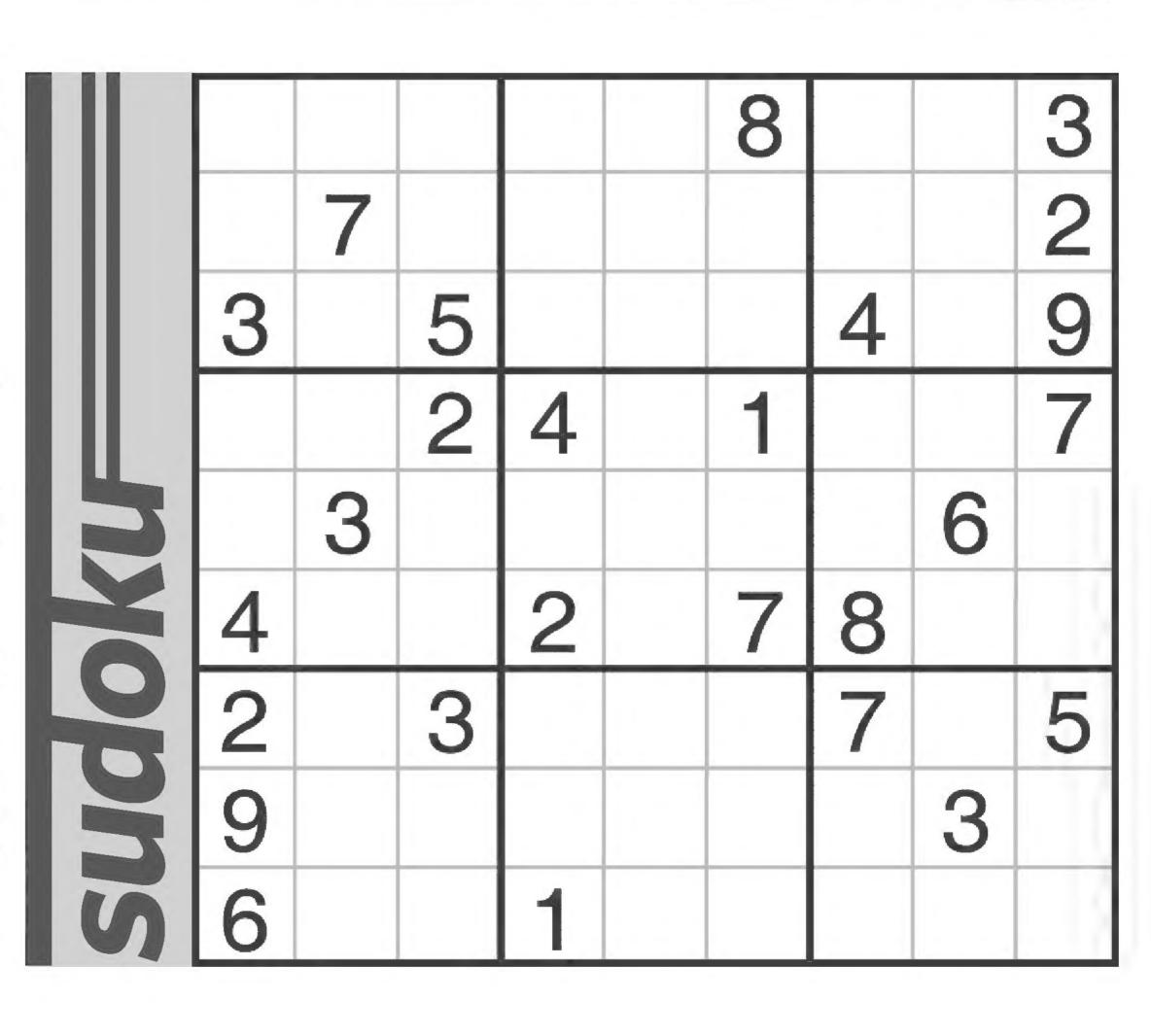
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